

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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BILL DRAFT 2009-RDz-3 [v.10] (12/01)

**(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)
12/18/2008 12:15:44 PM**

Short Title: Compensate Eugenics Sterilization Survivors.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative.

Referred to:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE MONETARY COMPENSATION TO PERSONS
STERILIZED BY THE STATE EUGENIC STERILIZATION PROGRAM.

Whereas, during the early part of the 20th century, social reformers advocated eugenic sterilization as a solution to problems such as mental retardation and mental illness; and

Whereas, in 1907, Indiana was the first state to pass a eugenic sterilization program, and eventually more than 30 states passed these laws, with North Carolina following in 1929; and

Whereas, from 1929 to 1974, North Carolina's Eugenics Board reviewed petitions for sterilizations, and sterilizations were ordered in more than 90% of the cases before the Board; and

Whereas, researchers estimate that more than 7,600 people were sterilized in North Carolina between 1929 and 1974, ranking North Carolina third among the states operating eugenic sterilization programs; and

Whereas, over the lifetime of the Eugenics Sterilization Program, approximately 38% of those persons sterilized under the Program were black, and 84% of all sterilized under the Program were female; and

Whereas, over the lifetime of the Eugenics Sterilization Program, approximately 71% of those persons sterilized under the Program were done so due to being classified as being 'feebleminded', which were predominantly people with intellectual disabilities, 24% due to being classified as being mentally ill, and 5% because they had epilepsy; and